

lated that if they succeeded in getting through only 30 per cent of their copper shipments for Germany a handsome profit would remain.

Another illustration of this indirect contribution to Germany's necessities may well be recorded—the increase in the cost of tea, an article of conditional contraband. In September 1913, England exported to Holland 110,000 lbs. of tea; in September 1914, 687,000 lbs. Did the stolid Dutchman, fearful of entering this strife for righteousness and freedom, require to drink six cups of tea for steadying his tremulous nerves in September 1914, for every cup he drained in the same month of the preceding year ? *Credat Jud&us Apella !* Each additional pound of tea implied a substantial profit by the resale to Germany, though thousands of gallant men were being slain and wounded for the achievement of an end which ultimately defended these neutral nations themselves from base servitude to a base oppressor. I take just pride in our contrasted attitude and character. We held to the principle of avoiding interference with the trade of neutrals unless it were imperative in the preservation of our national safety—which it is not arrogance to assert is synonymous with the safety of the world: the principle of intervening simply when such intervention concerned—not legitimate trade between neutral countries themselves, but—a trade in contraband which was destined for the enemy's benefit; the principle of adopting such modes of procedure in such instances as would entail the minimum of inconvenience and delay upon neutral shipping consistent with the vital object in view. It might fail in magnanimity—since America subsequently enlisted in the righteous cause of civilisation—to dwell in detail upon the earlier complaints of her merchants and industries upon the just course which we pursued, but it is simple justice to record the historic fact that when, during the American Civil War of 1861, President Lincoln blockaded the southern ports of America, and thus completely barred the export of cotton to our shores, the manufactories of Lancashire were

rendered desolate; the suffering and anguish entailed upon our workers were intense and prolonged : yet no cry rang out from England to stay the extinction of our cotton industry resulting from the